

**MATH 215 FALL 2023**  
**Homework Set 8: §16.1 – 16.3**  
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1. Compute  $\int_C x^2 y \, ds$ , where  $C$  is the segment of the helix of radius 1 about the  $z$ -axis, oriented counter-clockwise in the  $xy$ -plane, starting at  $(1, 0, 0)$  and ending at  $(0, 1, \frac{\pi}{2})$ .
2. Compute  $\int_C x^2 \, dx + y^2 \, dy$ , where  $C$  is the circular arc starting at  $(2, 0)$  and ending at  $(0, 2)$  followed by the straight line segment from  $(0, 2)$  to  $(-1, 1)$ .
3. Do Exercise 53 of §16.2 in *Stewart's Multivariable Calculus*.
4. A wire has the shape of a helix with parametrization  $x = t, y = 2 \cos t, z = 2 \sin t$  for  $0 \leq t \leq 6\pi$ , where distances are measured in cm. Find the mass and the center of mass of the wire if the density (in grams/cm) of the wire at any point is equal to four times the square of the distance from the origin to the point.
5. Let  $\vec{F} = \nabla f$  where  $f(x, y) = \frac{y^{2002}}{1+x^{200002}+y^{2002}}$ . Can you find a (smooth, simple, but not necessarily closed) curve  $C$  with the following property:

(a)  $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \frac{1}{2}$

**Solution:** By the Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals, this integral is equal to the value of  $f(x_1, y_1)$  at the beginning of the curve subtracted from  $f(x_2, y_2)$  at the end of the curve. So, we find two points where  $f(x_2, y_2) - f(x_1, y_1) = \frac{1}{2}$ .  $(0, 0)$  and  $(0, 1)$  satisfy these conditions. So, the line segment from  $(0, 0)$  to  $(0, 1)$  fulfills this property.

(b)  $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 1$

**Solution:** The minimum value of  $f$  is 0 at  $(0, 0)$ , and only the limit at  $(0, \infty)$  is 1. Thus, there is no finite curve where this is true. If an infinite curve is allowed, then the infinite line beginning at the origin along the  $y$ -axis satisfies this property.

6. Do Exercises 11, 31, and 32 of §16.3 in *Stewart's Multivariable Calculus*.

**Solution**

11. (a) The vector field is conservative, the gradient of the function  $f(x, y) = x^2 y$ . Thus, the Fundamental Theorem of Line integrals applies. Since all these curves begin and end at the same point, the line integrals have the same value.

(b)  $f(3, 2) - f(1, 2) = \boxed{16}$

31.

32.

33. (a) Calculate  $\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$  where

$$\vec{F}(x, y) = \left\langle \frac{2xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}, \frac{y^2 - x^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \right\rangle$$

for  $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$  and  $C$  is the circle of radius  $R$  centered at the origin, oriented clockwise.

**Solution:** We can parameterize this by  $C(t) = \langle R \cos(t), R \sin(t) \rangle, 0 \leq t \leq \pi$ . Then  $C'(t) = \langle -R \sin(t), R \cos(t) \rangle$ . The integral is then

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} &= \int_0^{2\pi} \left\langle \frac{2 \sin(t) \cos(t)}{R^2}, \frac{\sin^2(t) - \cos^2(t)}{R^2} \right\rangle \cdot \langle -R \sin(t), R \cos(t) \rangle dt \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \int_0^{2\pi} -2 \sin^2(t) \cos(t) + \cos(t) \sin^2(t) - \cos^3(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \int_0^{2\pi} -\sin^2(t) \cos(t) - \cos^3(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \int_0^{2\pi} -\cos(t)(\sin^2(t) + \cos^2(t)) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \int_0^{2\pi} -\cos(t) dt \\ &= \boxed{0} \end{aligned}$$

We could also have noticed that  $\vec{F}$  is the gradient of the function  $f(x, y) = \frac{-y}{x^2+y^2}$ . Following from the Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals, a line integral of a conservative vector field on a closed curve is 0.  $\square$

- (b) Repeat the previous part, only this time take the curve  $C$  to be the ellipse defined by  $4x^2 + 9y^2 = 36$ , oriented counterclockwise. Hint: It may be possible to do this integration without parametrizing the ellipse.

**Solution:**  $\vec{F}$  is the gradient of the function  $f(x, y) = \frac{-y}{x^2+y^2}$ . Following from the Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals, a line integral of a conservative vector field on a closed curve is  $\boxed{0}$ .  $\square$